

## GRADED SCHOOLS OF WINCHESTER

Short Sketch of Growth of the Public School System of City.

The best index to the growth in population, wealth and culture of Winchester is found in the growth of her public schools.

An efficient public school was organized as soon as the State authorized such an institution, but no serious effort was made to grade and modernize the school until about 1888, when eight grades were organized.

The subjects taught included the present common school branches. At that time the attendance was less than one hundred and fifty and there were four teachers. The building was a one-story brick on the site of the present Hickman street building.

### A New Building.

In 1890, a new building was erected of six rooms and accordingly the same number of teachers were employed. Two years later two brick rooms were built on Washington street and the number of teachers increased to eight; then in 1896 two rooms were added to this building and the number of teachers increased to ten. A few years later a frame building was purchased adjoining the Hickman street site, and has since been used as a primary room, and the corps of teachers was increased to eleven.

### The Greatest Stride.

The greatest stride made in building was in 1906 when four rooms were added to the Hickman and two to the Washington street building. There was much opposition to the appropriation of money for these additions and conservative men predicted that they would never be any use for the rooms that were to be built. Scarcely enrollment or visit the school or the refutation of this argument.

Later, a primary room was built in the yard at Hickman street. The buildings are immovable, well lighted and steam heated. There are now seventy rooms, presided over by six teachers; in addition, a Superintendent and supply teacher.

### Present Faculty.

The present faculty is as follows: Prof. R. M. App, Superintendent; Prof. J. L. Bosley, Principal; Misses Nana Tucker, Ida Darnaby, Fannie Ish, High School; Misses Nancy Stevenson, Mattie Poyndexter, La Woodward, Sallie McDonald, Ira Harding, Lizzie Mae Maden and Sue Scrivener, Hickman street building; Misses Eddie Oshe, Julia French, Sue Munday, Le Ramsey, Mayme Hughes and Archie Hammond, Washington street building. Miss Ida Parrish, supply teacher. Miss Bessie Grigsby teaches vocal music and drawing during the two years that theatre has been conducted by special teacher great advancements have been made.

The janitor John Salender, of Washington street school, and Mack Butts, Hickman, keep their buildings neatly and are expert flower gardeners.

### Cost of Study.

The course study conforms to the best and most modern ideas of popular education and graduates are prepared to enter the Freshman class of our best Colleges and Universities.

### Enrollment.

The enrollment up to date in the white schools 761, the largest in the history of the school. Every available seat is taxed to the utmost to carry this large number of students.

Each building has a library of several hundred books and the teachers have on foot to give several entertainments during the winter to secure funds to enlarge them.

### Colored School.

The colored graded school occupies a large frame building on Oliver street. Prof. J. H. Garvin, Principal, and ten assistants have charge of music, cooking, sewing, shoe making and brick laying are taught in addition to an excellent basic and literary course. There are 60 students enrolled.

### Recent Improvements.

The colored school and Hickman street school have each had recent

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## WINCHESTER THE GATEWAY TO A GREATER EASTERN KENTUCKY

Promise of the Future Is Far Greater Than Anything  
In the City's Past—Resources of Mountains  
Have Been Hardly Touched As Yet.

(By Lucien Beckner.)

The present century will see the Eastern part of Kentucky develop conditions like, but superior to those that developed in Western Pennsylvania during the last. Will Winchester be in a position to take advantage of them? This great Nation is clothed and fed and comforted in a swarming with people who must be thousands different ways; besides on all the shores of all the seas are millions whom modern teamships have brought so near to the United States that they have become dependent upon the output of its fields and mines and factories for many of life's necessities. All of which depend upon coal—coal to manufacture and coal to transport.

### Largest Coal Field.

Probably the largest undeveloped coal field in the world is that of Eastern Kentucky and West Virginia. These fields lie at Winchester's feet and must seek their Western markets through her portals. Winchester is nestled in fields of richest bluegrass and is the first city that is, coming westward out of the mountains. This fact has been of inestimable blessing to Winchester already; but what has gone before is hardly a prelude to what is to follow if Winchester citizens rightly use them. The limestone dips under the slates of the Devonian along the city's southeastern border, and they in turn render the white mountain line of the subcarboniferous; and it under the sandstones, slates, and coals of the true carboniferous.

### Seven Workable Veins.

All the way to the Cumberland mountains these coal bearing rocks extend carrying as many as seven workable veins of coal, much of it looking like the best Pennsylvania, all of it excellent for steam purposes, and part of it comprising the largest canal coal field in the world.

During the year 1907, Kentucky produced 9,740,420 tons of coal valued at \$10,714,462 making it eighth amongst the States in amount mined. Most of this was mined in the Western section and it is still far behind the 130 millions raised in Pennsylvania, but the State has the area to equal the latter State; and Southward along the Alleghenies the course of King Coal's empire is wending its way. Kentucky's coal was of the value of \$1.10 a ton; compare this with \$1.12 for Pennsylvania, and 95 cents for West Virginia.

### Natural Gas Field.

Then there is that other great fuel, natural gas of which the highlands seem richly stored and possibly the bluegrass section. By the way, the geologists consider Kentucky's limestone the source of all the oil and gas found in the rocks that overlie it. Oil and gas are the remains of the fats in the countless fishes, shellfish, corals, etc., that lived in the Silurian seas and whose mausoleum our limestone is.

There is every reason to believe that rich stores of oil and gas have as yet been hardly touched, nearly all the work yet done, being around the edge of the field where the measures are shallow and the reservoirs easily tapped. With the advent of more railroads the whole region will be developed.

### Chief Source of Wealth.

Timber has been the mountain's chief source of wealth in the past and will continue so for many years to come. The wonderful stores of yellow poplar are gone. The generations that succeed this one will not realize what walnuts and poplars the mountains once grew. I have seen a poplar stump in Letcher county that a house could be built on—that the people held dances on—not only one but several. Some of

the mountain trees would have given California a race for supremacy. If I were to tell of what the walnuts were, the Ananias Club would want me for censor morum, although I need not deviate an iota from the truth.

### The Remaining Timber.

The remaining timber is all hardwood, mostly oak. This county has been one of the most important lumber producers because of its mills along the river and must see to it that the changing conditions that are today confronting the lumber business do not make us lose our present advantage. Economy will demand that the finished product be made nearer the source of raw material and with our gas, (of both kind) we ought to make this a great manufacturing point.

Many ways suggest themselves to an imaginative mind how Winchester should use these nearby riches, how the citizens may get into the wave of progress and prosperity that is bound to engulf our near neighbors on the East and South. All our hopes depend on transportation; we are not in that wonderful treasure house; its riches will have to be brought to us, we can not go to them. Our three railroads are an equipment that gives us the advantage over all competitors and then our river will soon be locked and dammed all the way. We must see to it that the mountain railroads of the future do not pass us by. With transportation we can secure factories to work up the raw products, and I think that in this regard we have advantage over the mountains, this being a more pleasant land to live in and closer to the markets.

### Profit to Citizens.

Our citizens generally and especially our farmers will profit by the increase of population in the mountains which are so rough that their arable lands will never be sufficient to support many people.

In conclusion we must remember that the good things come to them who go after them and that with all the material blessings in the world heaped in one place they would only be a heap of dirt if the spirit to use and control them were not present. We are famous throughout the State as a town of high spirit; we must keep this up, yes, even improve it also. Keep up with the times that we may know how to take advantage of our opportunities; and continually extend the "good hand" to those who would locate amongst us and help to make our city what it should become.

## A LEADING CITIZEN DIES AT RIPE AGE

Mr. William Mitchell Passed Away  
Last Friday Afternoon.

Mr. William Mitchell, for a number of years, one of Winchester's most prominent business men died at his home on Maple street, Friday afternoon at four o'clock after an illness of several months, of rheumatism and the infirmities due to old age.

Mr. Mitchell was 74 years of age and had spent the greatest part of his life in this city. He came here when quite young from Carlisle and engaged in the grocery business and later going into the shoe business, which he conducted up to about eight years ago.

Mr. Mitchell retired from the business on account of his declining health. He had been a sufferer from rheumatism for a number of years and had just returned from Martinsville, Ind., where he had been to be treated.

Mr. Mitchell is survived by his wife and two children, Charlie, who conducts the Coco Cola bottling works at Lexington and one daughter, Mrs. Elizabeth Goff, of Indian Fields, this county. He was a kind and loving father and husband and highly esteemed by all who knew him.

The funeral services were held at the residence at ten o'clock Sunday and conducted by Elder J. H. Mac Neill, of the Christian church of this city and Elder I. J. Spencer, of Lexington. The burial took place in the Machpelah Cemetery at Mt. Sterling.

The following were the Pall-bearers: Active—Lee S. Baldwin, George W. Babin, C. B. Stewart, F. C. Wheeler, H. B. Scrivener, W. S. Massie, J. P. Adamson, and C. B. Redmon. Honorary Pall-bearers: N. G. H. Witherspoon, J. W. Hunt, H. L. Stevens, Dr. J. W. Johnson, W. D. Strode and Claiborne Lisle.

### Favors Woman Suffrage.

In Holland where qualified women have long had municipal suffrage, the committee on revision of the constitution has reported in favor of giving women proportional representation and making them eligible to parliament.